

Unit Assessment

Use the list below to write the correct term for each definition on the line provided.

barbed wire boom towns dry farming	fifty-niners homestead long drive	pioneers reservations transcontinental
	1. herding ca railroad de	ttle from grazing lands to
	2. early settle	ers in the Western territories
	3. a way of p the soil	lowing to preserve water in
	4. special hor Americans	melands set aside for Native
	5. mining set rapidly	tlements that grew very
	6. fence wire	having barbs at intervals
	7. reaching a	cross a continent
	8. land receive return for a	ved from the United States ir farming it
	9. people wh search of g	o went to Colorado in 1859 i old



Use the list below to complete the following statements.

buffalo	massacred
forty-niners	open range
ghost towns	wagon trains

10.	Many plains Native Americans lived by hunting		
11.	were an early means of transportation for settlers of the West.		
12.	Many Native Americans were, or killed, by the United States Army.		
13.	Cattle ranchers wanted their cattle to graze on the		
14.	People rushing to the gold fields of California in 1849 were called		
15.	When miners deserted the boom towns, the towns became		
Circ	le the letter of the correct answer.		
16.	The first people living in the American West were		

farmers

cattlemen

Native Americans

a.

b.

c.



17.	By 1887 travel from the East Coast to the West Coast was made easie by	er	
	a. a fast fleet of ships		
	b. wagons pulled by fast teams of horses		
	c. transcontinental railroads		
18.	The Homestead Act gave settlers 160 acres of land if they		
	a. lived on it five years and improved it		
	b. promised to grow corn and wheat		
	c. paid \$100.00 an acre		
19.	The invention of barbed wire brought an end to		
	a. farming on the Great Plains		
	b. open range cattle grazing		
	c. the threat of a Native American raid		
20.	Native Americans were angry because American settlers		
	a. discovered gold in the West		
	b. were fighting to take Native American lands		
	c. began to herd buffalo on the Great Plains		
21.	At the Battle of the Little Bighorn in June of 1876,		
	a. Native Americans were badly defeated by a large group of		
	American farmers		
	b. cattlemen and farmers fought over grazing lands		
	c. the Sioux defeated United States Army troops		
22.	The Dawes Act gave Native Americans		
	a. the right to own property		
	b. American citizenship		
	c. 160 acres of free land		
23.	Farmers on the Great Plains built homes out of		
	a. wood		
	b. blocks of sod		
	c. bricks		



24. Western cattle and crops were important sources of food for

a. the big cities in the East

- b. the mining camps in the West
- c. the Native Americans on reservations.
- 25. After 1850, many people rushed to the West because of the
 - a. quick money they could make herding cattle
 - b. discovery of gold
 - c. desire to explore new lands